

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AMAD-00	A-00	INL-00	DODE-00	DOPE-00
	EAP-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-00
	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	VCE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	PA-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	R-00	DRL-00	SAS-00

/002R

311837

SOURCE: CBLEXCLS.004168

DRAFTED BY: WHA/PDA:LSHAMILTON -- 11/07/2003 647-4726

APPROVED BY: WHA/PDA:RAZIMMERMAN

PA: RBOUCHER(SUBS)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:

DRL/BA-DMTITUS, H-MTREJO, NSC-FARMSTRONG

-----BEEF1E 072231Z /38

P R 072217Z NOV 03

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL TIJUANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCTrans INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL

USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

USCINCSO MIAMI FL

USCINCSO MACDILL AFB FL//POLAD

UNCLAS STATE 311837

ALL POSTS FOR PAO, USSOCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, KPAO

SUBJECT: WHA GUIDANCE, NOVEMBER 7, 2003

UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS:

1. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, NOV 7 (BRAZIL, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS)
 2. INL PRESS GUIDANCE, NOV 7 (ANTI-NARCOTICS HELICOPTERS)
 3. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, NOV 6 (CANADA)
- END SUMMARY.

1. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, NOVEMBER 7, 2003:

-- BRAZIL: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH BRAZILIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER --

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S MEETING THIS
AFTERNOON WITH BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER AMORIM?

A: THE SECRETARY IS PLEASED TO MEET WITH THE FOREIGN
MINISTER OF BRAZIL, CELSO AMORIM (PRONOUNCED: "SELL-SOH"
"AH-MOH-REEM").

U.S.-BRAZIL RELATIONS ARE BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF SHARED
VALUES AND MUTUAL RESPECT AND WE CONSIDER BRAZIL A KEY FRIEND
AND PARTNER.

THE SECRETARY AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL DISCUSS A BROAD
RANGE OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND TRADE ISSUES, AS WELL AS
WAYS TO KEEP THE POSITIVE MOMENTUM ESTABLISHED BY THE JUNE 20
PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT MOVING FORWARD.

-- GUATEMALA: GUIDANCE ON FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS --

Q: WHAT DO WE HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE GUATEMALAN
ELECTIONS?

A: OUR POSITION ON THE GUATEMALAN ELECTIONS HAS NOT CHANGED.
WE SUPPORT FREE, FAIR, TRANSPARENT AND CONSTITUTIONAL
ELECTIONS. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO WORK WITH, AND HAVE A
FRIENDLY, NORMAL RELATIONSHIP WITH, WHOMEVER IS THE NEXT
PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA.

Q: ANY COMMENT ON THE CONTROVERSIAL ELECTION LAW RECENTLY
PASSED BY THE GUATEMALAN CONGRESS, WHICH REQUIRED EMPLOYERS
TO GIVE THEIR EMPLOYEES THREE DAYS OFF IN ORDER TO VOTE?

A: PRESIDENT PORTILLO VETOED THE NEW LAW ON NOVEMBER 5. THE
U.S. EMBASSY IN GUATEMALA HAD PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY URGED
HIM TO DO SO.

QUESTION: IS THE UNITED STATES PREPARED TO DEAL WITH EFRAIN
RIOS MONTT AS PRESIDENT IF HE WINS THE ELECTION?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

A: THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES IN THIS MATTER IS CLEAR AND HAS NOT CHANGED. REALISTICALLY, IN LIGHT OF MR. RIOS MONTT'S BACKGROUND, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO HAVE THE RELATIONSHIP THAT WE WOULD IDEALLY PREFER.

-- HONDURAS: REQUEST FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE HELICOPTERS TO COMBAT NARCOTICS --

KEY POINTS TO MAKE:

TO DATE, THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT FORMERLY REQUESTED ANTI-NARCOTICS HELICOPTERS.

THE HONDURAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS SOUGHT U.S. ARMY HELICOPTERS FROM THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT'S "EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES PROGRAM," WHICH TRANSFERS EXCESS U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

WE ARE NOT ABLE TO FULFILL THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST FOR HELICOPTERS BECAUSE OF THE COST INVOLVED. BUT WE ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS PROLIFERATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA; CONGRESS HAS ALOTTED 2.75 MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE REGION IN FISCAL YEAR 2003.

2. INL PRESS GUIDANCE, NOVEMBER 7, 2003:

-- FACTS ON HELICOPTERS UNDER INL --

Q. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT INTEND TO PROVIDE HELICOPTERS TO HONDURAS TO HELP COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING? WHY OR WHY NOT?

KEY POINTS:

2.75 MILLION DOLLARS HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR COUNTER NARCOTICS EFFORTS FOR ALL OF CENTRAL AMERICA, THEREFORE THE COUNTER NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN HONDURAS IS MODEST.

Q. WHAT COUNTRIES DOES THE U.S. PRESENTLY PROVIDE ANTI-NARCOTICS HELICOPTERS TO? HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

KEY POINTS:

THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS 108 HELICOPTERS DISPATCHED IN BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, PAKISTAN AND PERU SUPPORTING COUNTER NARCOTICS EFFORTS.

THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003 AIR ASSETS WAS 235 MILLION DOLLARS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THE HELICOPTERS ARE USED TO PROVIDE AVIATION "LIFT" SUPPORT)- TRANSPORT TO AREAS THAT INACCESSIBLE BY GROUND -- FOR COUNTER NARCOTICS EFFORTS AND TO BOLSTER BORDER SECURITY. WE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING AIR ASSETS TO THE FOLLOWING

COUNTRIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003:

COLOMBIA:

62.26 MILLION DOLLARS IN AERIAL SUPPORT TO THE COLOMBIAN POLICE.

128.75 MILLION IN AERIAL SUPPORT TO THE COLOMBIAN ARMY.

THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 72 HELICOPTERS IN COUNTRY AT THIS TIME.

PERU:

31.6 MILLION DOLLARS IN AERIAL SUPPORT TO THE PERUVIAN POLICE.

THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 16 HELICOPTERS IN COUNTRY AT THIS TIME.

BOLIVIA:

8.864 MILLION DOLLARS IN AERIAL SUPPORT TO THE BOLIVIAN POLICE.

THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 15 HELICOPTERS IN COUNTRY AT THIS TIME.

PAKISTAN:

3.5 MILLION DOLLARS IN AERIAL SUPPORT TO THE PAKISTAN MINISTER OF INTERIOR TO BOLSTER EFFORTS ALONG THE

PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN BORDER.

THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 5 HELICOPTERS IN COUNTRY AT THIS TIME.

3. WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, NOVEMBER 6, 2003:

-- MAHER ARAR CASE --

KEY POINTS TO MAKE:

A: THE SECRETARY SPOKE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON WITH CANADIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLIAM GRAHAM. THEY DISCUSSED THE ARAR CASE AND THE SECRETARY AGREED TO SHARE ADDITIONAL DETAILS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

WE REFER YOU TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS MATTER.

POWELL

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED